

**CITY OF ONTARIO
RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION
MAY 18, 2020
MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: DEAN, RILEY, NELSEN, OVITT, BINNEY, SAUCEDO, TRINIDAD

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: MCALARY, GONZALEZ, HUISMAN, HICKEY, MICHALAK, SALGADO

MEMBERS ABSENT: CAMARENA, SOTO

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair, Kenneth Dean at 6:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Daniel Saucedo, Commission Member

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

M/S (SAUCEDO/RILEY) TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR APRIL 2020 CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No Public Comments

CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Monthly Statistical Reports for April 2020.

M/S (TRINIDAD/NELSEN) TO APPROVE THE MONTHLY STATISTICAL REPORT FOR APRIL 2020 CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. **Recreation & Community Services** – Nicholas Gonzalez, Recreation & Community Services Director, narrated a PowerPoint presentation on department highlights of program activities that occurred in April 2020.

A copy of this presentation is available upon request from the Commission Secretary.

2. **OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Student Representative Process** - Nicholas Gonzalez, Recreation & Community Services Director shared the current recruitment process for the upcoming 2020/2021 Student Representatives. The finalists will make their presentations, and the Commission will vote in the new Student Representatives at the June 2020 Commission meeting.

3. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Ontario On the Go** - Frank Salgado, Senior Recreation & Community Services Supervisor presented a new after school program to the Commission. Frank shared that this program is a collaboration between the Recreation, Library and Museum Departments. It will be a mobile after school program that will take place at selected parks within the City of Ontario. The objective is to reintroduce the community back into the city green spaces for fun, healthy activity including traditional and non-traditional sports and educational opportunities. The program has been made possible with the support of CDBG funding and a \$64,430 grant through the California State Library "Shared Vision" program. During this time of facility closings, our staff have been very busy planning and collaborating with the Library and Museum on programming ideas and purchasing supplies that will be necessary once the program can officially begin. Studies have shown that when there is increased positive park activities such as this program will offer, crime rates decrease.

COMMENTS:

- OVITT:** "I am pleased with all that you're doing in preparing for the future. I realize there are limitations for a long time to come in bringing large groups of people together. I have enjoyed the signs that you use, and it was fun to see them at all the different facilities! Sad news to report, Cheryl Semon, the wife of one of Chaffey High Schools former coaches, Jim Semon recently passed away. Jim has been very involved with the City of Ontario's Recreation Department and programming over the years. I would like to request to close today's Commission meeting in Cheryl Semon's honor."
- SAUCEDO:** "Everything that we have been providing the city's residents is really positive. We are in consistent contact and encouraging one another and the community. My hat is off to the staff and all that they are doing. Thank you for your hard work and I'm looking forward to seeing you all again soon in person!"
- TRINIDAD:** "Thank you for your hard work and dedication in staying connected with Ontario's residents. Have you received any calls about cooling centers?"
- GONZALEZ:** "We are currently working with the County of San Bernardino as they have recently issued guidelines for cooling centers. They have a program that offers seniors with portable fans and in some cases temporary portable air conditioners as supplies last. Our staff is referring those types of inquiries to the County at this time."
- TRINIDAD:** "Thank you for the meals you're serving to the Seniors. I know a lot of them personally who have said they've taken advantage of this service and

they're very grateful and relieved that the city is taking care of them in this way."

BINNEY: "I am so happy with the Emergency Senior Meal Program. Our staff is amazing, and they work such long days delivering the meals and doing everything they can right now. Thank you! I am so proud of the Recreation & Community Services Department for leading this! Thank you to our Board Members for being part of this and I look forward to better times and seeing each other in person and seeing the community centers open again!"

NELSEN: "How nice and very proactive of the Armstrong Center working together with the Sewing Club to hand make and distribute the masks to Mercy House. You are really on target! I thank all of you who are there every day to keep everything going. You have made me so proud of our Recreation & Parks Department. I would like to request that we also close tonight's meeting in respect to the 12 firemen who were severely injured this past Saturday evening in a Los Angeles warehouse fire."

RILEY: "I echo everyone's comments and I thank Nick Gonzalez, Recreation & Community Services Department Director and Helen McAlary, Executive Director of the Community Life & Culture Agency on the smooth transition you've done during this time. I am so sad though about the annual Independence Day Parade and the Fireworks Spectacular having to be cancelled. Our Annual Soroptimist Prism Awards Luncheon was cancelled due to COVID-19 and we were unable to honor Kristy Garcia in person who is a Senior at Ontario High School and active T.A.C. member. I thank Candice Smith, Senior Recreation & Community Services Supervisor for Kristy's nomination who will receive her award and stipend very soon. Do you happen to know if the 2020 Route 66 Crusin' Reunion will be cancelled this year?"

MCALARY: "I asked about it a couple of days ago and from what I learned, I imagine, we will not be moving forward with it this year. Especially since the 2020 Los Angeles County Fair has now officially been cancelled. No official announcement is out yet but I'm sure it will be coming soon."

DEAN: "Thank you Helen, Nick and all of your staff for making this possible. The meetings have been amazingly smooth, and we appreciate the information provided from the employee presentations. Their hearts are very much invested. We look forward to the Ontario On The Go program to get started! It's good to see your faces tonight and I look forward to seeing you all in person soon!"

**NEXT RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
JUNE 22, 2020 AT 6:00 PM:**

**M/S (RILEY/NELSEN) ADJOURNED THE MEETING IN HONOR OF THE INJURED
LOS ANGELES FIRE FIGHTERS AND FOR CHERYL SEMON, WIFE OF RETIRED
CHAFFEY HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL COACH.**


CARRIED UNAMIOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT: 7:06 PM



Ann Huisman, Recording Secretary

APPROVED:



Kenneth Dean, Chairperson